

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 were pending in the present application. Claims 6-7 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Applicants reserve the right to file continuing applications on the subject matter of cancelled claims 6-7. Thus, claims 1-5 and 8-13 are currently pending in the present application.

Reexamination of the application and reconsideration of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, which follow the order set forth in the Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5 and 8-13 are indicated as allowable in the Office Action Summary, mailed September 6, 2007. Applicants are appreciative of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is moot

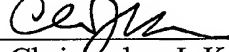
Claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 00/60680 to Yamada (U.S. Patent No. 6,632,566 is an English equivalent to WO '680). While not agreeing with the Examiner's reasons for the rejection and only in an effort to further prosecution of the application, Applicants have cancelled claims 6-7, rendering the rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, instant claims 1-5 and 8-13 are allowable. As this amendment places the application in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the amendment be admitted and that a Notice to this effect be issued. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

HUTCHISON LAW GROUP PLLC

Date: 12-6-2007

By: 
Christopher J. Knors
Registration No. 45,569

P.O. Box 31686
Raleigh, NC 27612
+1.919.829.9600